

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Application of: Hironori SUMITOMO and Koji FUJIWARA
For: COUNTING SYSTEM AND COUNTING
METHOD
U.S. Serial No.: 10/698,707
Confirmation No.: 1922
Filed: October 31, 2003
Group Art Unit: 2878
Examiner: To Be Assigned

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered
Representative



Signature

FEBRUARY 12, 2004

Date of Signature

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants wish to bring the following items to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of each document is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects


its relative pertinence. The references cited below are not intended to constitute an admission of any kind.

- (1) Radford et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,600,509 B1, issued July 29, 2003;
- (2) Japanese Unexamined Published Application No. (A) 8-161453 (KANO YUKIO et al), published June 21, 1996; and
- (3) Japanese Unexamined Published Application No. (A) 10-009815 (ASADA NORIHIRO et al), published January 16, 1998.

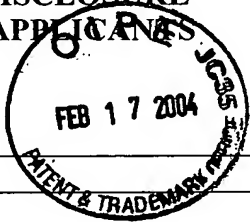
As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Office Action, no fee is required. If it should be determined that a fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____


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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Complete if Known				
				Application Number	10/698,707			
				Confirmation No.	1922			
				Filing Date	October 31, 2003			
				First Inventor	Hironori SUMITOMO et al			
				Group Art Unit	2878			
				Examiner Name	To Be Assigned			
Attorney Docket No.	15162/06270							
Sheet	1	of	1	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	Cite #	DOCUMENT NUMBER	C O D E	PATENTEE	ISSUE DATE (mm/dd/yy)	CLASS	SUB CLASS	Filing Date if Appropriate
	(1)	6,600,509	B1	Radford et al	07/29/03	348	143	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials		O F F I C E	NUMBER	C O D E	PUBLICATION DATE (mm/dd/yy)	TRANSLATION Yes No		
	(2)	JP	8-161453	A	06/21/96	ABSTRACT ONLY		
	(3)	JP	10-009815	A	01/16/98	ABSTRACT ONLY		
NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published							
Examiner Signature					Date Considered			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with the next communication to applicant.